

## March 2011 Newsletter

### The MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD is now on Facebook!

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- **Board meeting dates**
- **Renewal information**
- **Rule changes**
- **Legislative updates**
- **Interesting Articles**

### RENEWALS

Renewals for medical licenses and residency permit are fast approaching. All MD/DO licenses and medical residency permits and Controlled Substance Registrations (CSR) will expire on **June 30, 2011**. Around May 1st, you will receive notification, **via email**, that your license is now available to renew online. You cannot renew your license until 60 days prior to the expiration date. Please make sure that IPLA always has your current address and email address on file. The cost to renew your medical license is \$200 and the cost to renew each CSR is \$60. If you fail to renew by June 30, 2010, there will be a \$50 late fee assessed to your license and each CSR that you hold. Renewals will be available at [www.pla.IN.gov](http://www.pla.IN.gov) after May 1, 2010. Your login ID is your full license number and your password is the last 4 digits of your social security number.

If you are in the military and being deployed and need to renew early, please contact our office at [pla3@pla.IN.gov](mailto:pla3@pla.IN.gov). Only those being deployed may renew early.

### Survey

There will be a survey attached to your online license renewal. It is very important that every licensee complete the quick, less than 5 minute survey, to help the state determine workforce shortage issues and address how Indiana can handle a health epidemic or natural disaster. Results of previous re-licensure surveys can be found at <http://ahec.iupui.edu/indiana-center-for-health-workforce-studies-reports/>

### Addresses are Public Record

While doing an online license verification search, it will only display the city, state and zip code of the address that we have on a physician's record. However, all addresses that are listed are considered to be public record and can be obtained by contacting the Board. We caution physicians about listing their home address as an address of record.

Although controlled substance registrations (CSR) require a practice address, your address of record for your medical license, can either be a home address, practice address

or PO Box. You may change your address anytime by logging on at [www.pla.IN.gov](http://www.pla.IN.gov), or you may email your change of address to the Board at [pla3@pla.in.gov](mailto:pla3@pla.in.gov). You will also have an opportunity during the renewal process to change your address.

## Legislative Updates

Below is a list of bills that are still alive at this point in the session, however, it is difficult to determine what will happen to these due to recent events in the statehouse. Legislative updates will be posted on our Facebook page.

**SB 223 – Medical Licensing Board Investigations** Authorizes the medical licensing board of Indiana (board) to investigate and assess civil penalties for specified violations by licensed physicians. Requires the division of consumer protection within the office of the attorney general to forward complaints for specified violations to the board unless certain circumstances are met. Allows a physician who is determined by the board to have committed a violation to appeal the board's determination. Establishes the physician compliance fund consisting of penalties assessed and collected by the board for violations determined by the board through investigations.

**SB 363 – Criminal background checks of health professionals** Authorizes the state police department (department) to use the fingerprints of an individual in a request related to an individual applying for or renewing certain health professional licenses or certificates. Adds \$6 to the fee to be collected by the department in conducting a criminal background check and deposited into a created fingerprint identification fund. Requires applicants for certain licensed health professions to submit to a national criminal history background check. Requires the department to release the results of the national criminal history background check to the Indiana professional licensing agency (agency). Authorizes the agency or a licensing board to suspend, deny, or revoke a license if the applicant or license holder has been convicted of specified offenses.

**SB 366 – Dept of Health** Allows medical residents to sign death certificates.

**HB 1121 Unused medications** Requires the board of pharmacy to adopt rules concerning a returned unused medication program. Provides civil liability for an entity or employee of an entity who participates in a program.

## Board Meeting Dates for 2011

Please note that meeting dates are subject to change. Board meetings are held in the Room W064, Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

- March 24
- April 28
- May 26
- June 23
- July 28
- August 25
- September 22

- October 27
- December 1

A list of Board Disciplinary actions may be found on our license litigation system at <http://www.in.gov/ai/appfiles/pla-litigation/> Free online licensure look-ups may be obtained at <https://extranet.in.gov/WebLookup/Search.aspx> This is a real time database so the best resource for accurate data.

## Death Certificate Registration

As of **January 1, 2011**, the Indiana Death Registration System (IDRS) must be utilized for submitting all death certificates. This system allows vital statistics events to be submitted electronically to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) in a more secure and efficient manner. Indiana Code section 16-37-1-3.1 codified these required changes.

### Violations

Sec 13 (a) Except as otherwise provided, a person who recklessly violates or fails to comply with this chapter commits a Class B misdemeanor.

(b) Each day a violation constitutes a separate offense.

More information may be found at <https://myweb.in.gov/ISDH/IDRSThin/> or by contacting ISDH at (317) 233-7989.

## IDEM, Marsh Pharmacies partner to collect unwanted medicine

Please pass this information on to your patients

**Who:** Indiana Department of Environmental Management and Marsh Pharmacies  
**What:** Unwanted medicine collection  
**When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, March 19  
 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, March 20  
**Where:** Indiana Marsh Pharmacies

Hoosiers will have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted medications in a safe and environmentally-friendly manner at 40 Indiana Marsh Pharmacies. Besides Marsh, sponsors include the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), the Indiana Poison Center, Rexam, Inmar CLS, Statewide Medical Services, IU Health, and Indiana Association for Home & Hospice Care, Inc.

To locate a Marsh Pharmacy, visit <http://www.marsh.net/pharmacy/pharmacy-locator>. For more information about the program visit [http://www.marsh.net/pharmacy/Medicine\\_Cabinet](http://www.marsh.net/pharmacy/Medicine_Cabinet)

## Medical Board Staff & Contact Information

Kristen Kelley – Director  
 Jody Edens – Assistant Director  
 Donna Moran – Litigation/Probation Specialist  
 Meredith Shirley – Case Manager  
 Dawn Shaffer – Case Manager  
 Elizabeth Sangar – Case Manager

Kathy Barger – Case Manager

Professional Licensing Agency  
Medical Licensing Board of Indiana  
402 West Washington Street, Room W072  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Phone number: (317) 234-2060  
Fax number: (317) 233-4236  
Email: [pla3@pla.IN.gov](mailto:pla3@pla.IN.gov)  
Web: [www.pla.IN.gov](http://www.pla.IN.gov)

## **Board Members**

All members of the Board are appointed by the Governor in increments of 4 year terms. They consist of 5 medical physicians, 1 osteopathic physician and 1 consumer member who are the following:

Stephen Huddleston, J.D. – Consumer Member, Board President, Franklin, IN  
Bharat Barai, M.D. – Vice President, Merrillville, IN  
Donald Vennekotter, M.D. – Secretary, Jasper, IN  
Worthe Holt, Jr., M.D. – Fishers, IN  
Robert Allen, M.D. – Columbus, IN  
Lynda Smirz, M.D. – Carmel, IN  
Vacant - osteopathic physician